

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 02998 210825Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 /028 W
-----113432 210830Z /11

R 201331Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2187
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2998

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR EUR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, XZ
SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. MONDALE
TO SCANDINAVIA

1. DURING FINNISH INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES,
LEIF LEIFLAND, SWEDISH MFA'S PERMANENT UNDER SECRETARY,
ASKED ME TO ASK MRS. MONDALE IF SHE COULD CONFIRM THAT
SHE AND THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD VISIT SWEDEN IN
JULY 1978. MRS. MONDALE SAID SHE AND THE VICE PRESIDENT
WERE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE VISIT, AND JULY SEEMED AT
PRESENT TO BE BEST TIME FOR IT. I GAVE LEIFLAND THIS
REPLY.

2. SUBSEQUENTLY, NORWEGIAN FONMIN KNUT FRYDENLUND TOLD
MRS. MONDALE HE HOPED SHE AND VICE PRESIDENT WOULD
VISIT NORWAY. SHE REPLIED THAT THEY HOPED VERY MUCH
TO VISIT SCANDINAVIA IN 1978 AND WOULD WANT TO
INCLUDE NORWAY.

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3. FINALLY, FINNS ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO
INCLUDE FINLAND IN ANY TRIP MONDALES MIGHT MAKE
TO SCANDINAVIA. I ASKED MRS. MONDALE IF PROJECTED
VISIT TO SWEDEN (AND NORWAY) IN JULY COULD BE EXPANDED
TO INCLUDE FINLAND. SHE REPLIED THAT SHE HOPED IT
COULD AND THOUGHT THE VICE PRESIDENT WOULD BE AMENABLE
TO IT.

4. WITH ALL OF THIS, MRS. MONDALE VOLUNTEERED THAT
IF THE VISIT TAKES PLACE, IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE ALSO
TO INCLUDE DENMARK.

5. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR TO ME THAT AT LEAST THREE
FOREIGN OFFICES WILL BE EXPECTING TO HEAR MORE ABOUT
THE TRIP OF THE MONDALES TO SCANDINAVIA IN THE SUMMER
OF 1978. AT LEAST AS FAR AS FINLAND IS CONCERNED,
SUCH A TRIP WOULD BE ENORMOUSLY WELL RECEIVED AND OF
GREAT ASSISTANCE IN MEETING OUR GOALS HERE. MRS. MONDALE
LEFT BEHIND MANY FRIENDS, WHO WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO SEE
HER AGAIN AND WHO WOULD RECEIVE HER AND THE VICE PRESIDENT
WITH FAVOR AND WARMTH. IF PLANS ARE GOING AHEAD FOR A
VISIT TO SWEDEN, I DON'T SEE FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT HOW
IT COULD BE RESTRICTED TO THAT COUNTRY ALONE. IF THEY
ARE NOT, I WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED SO I CAN
TURN OFF ALL THE EXPECTATIONS TURNED ON HERE DURING
THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 7.
RIDGWAY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977HELSIN02998
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770475-0641
Format: TEL
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771237/aaaabeyh.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5773cbff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 173075
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED VISIT OF VICE PRESIDENT AND MRS. MONDALE TO SCANDINAVIA
TAGS: OVIP, XZ, (MONDALE, WALTER F)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5773cbff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009